



First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – July 25, 2016

FirstNet News

- FirstNet is finalizing preparations for its SPOC Webinar on Wednesday, July 27, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. ET. The purpose of the webinar is to provide SPOCs and their team members key FirstNet organizational updates and discuss progress and near term focus areas regarding the 2016 consultation program, including metro and executive engagements and the Consultation Task Team (CTT) effort.
- FirstNet has now completed 31 State Governance Body Consultation Meetings, after meeting with the Tennessee FirstNet Leadership Committee last week. Topics discussed included coverage expectations, network security, and the State Plans review process.
- On July 17, FirstNet participated in the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives' (NOBLE) 40th Annual Training Conference and Exhibition in Washington, DC. Leading an interactive session of nearly 50 NOBLE members, Area Lead Jeff King discussed the origins of FirstNet and the potential ways in which the FirstNet network will revolutionize the law enforcement profession, improve citizen safety, and improve public safety services overall. There were a number of questions from participants about devices, including how the network could facilitate reporting in the field, body-worn cameras, and biometrics.
- FirstNet representatives also participated in the PINNACLE 2016 EMS Leadership & Management Conference last week in San Antonio, Texas. Board member Kevin McGinnis gave a FirstNet update to members of the Joint National EMS Leadership Forum and the National EMS Management Association. FirstNet staff also presented on the broader topic of cyber security and technology use to a general session of the conference.
- The Federal Consultation team is preparing for a FirstNet Federal Southwest Border Forum in Phoenix, Arizona on August 30-31. This meeting will provide an opportunity for federal stakeholders in and around the Southwest Border Region to engage with FirstNet through a series of presentations and breakout session(s) focused on what is possible with public safety LTE and understanding federal needs. Federal practitioners participating in the forum will have the opportunity to sponsor counterparts from state, local and tribal public safety organizations in order to gain as comprehensive a picture as possible of operations along the

border. Federal Consultation Lead Chris Algieri's recent [blog post](#) describes the Forum and also includes a link to an [associated video](#) discussing challenges along the southwest border. For additional details on forum registration, contact FederalConsultation@FirstNet.gov.

- The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) issued last week a Public Notice that provides preliminary guidance on the process NTIA is developing to review applications for its State Alternative Plan Program (SAPP) from states and territories seeking to deploy their own radio access networks (RAN). The public is invited to submit comments on this Notice by August 18, 2016. To submit comments, please click the link [HERE](#).
- This week, FirstNet is participating in the annual Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments Conference in Monroeville; the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police Summer training Conference in Savannah; the National Telephone Cooperative Association (NTCA)-Southwest Regional Conference in Park City, Utah; a North Dakota Governance Body meeting in Bismarck; a Tennessee Statewide Interoperability Conference in Franklin; the Tri-State Telecommunications Conference in Sun Valley, Idaho; the Hawaii Governance Body meeting in Honolulu; the New Mexico EMS Innovations Conference in Albuquerque; and the Arizona-California Quality of Service, Priority and Preemption (QPP) CTT in Sacramento, California.
- Last week, FirstNet posted three blog entries: [Connecting Public Safety Operations Along the Southwest Border](#) from Federal Consultation Lead Chris Algieri (as noted above), [Going Wireless in an Emergency: A New Kind of Superhighway](#), and [FirstNet: Connecting Responders in Rural America](#). 'Connecting Responders in Rural America' is the second entry in the series "10 Ways FirstNet Will Help Public Safety Save Lives and Secure Communities" that is available at: <http://www.firstnet.gov/about/why>. All blog posts can also be accessed at: www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog.

Media Watch

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StateScoop 7/20: NTIA unveils draft guidance for states weighing FirstNet options

<http://statescoop.com/ntia-unveils-draft-guidance-for-states-weighing-firstnet-options>

State officials are about to get their first glimpse of details that will help them to decide whether to opt in or out of a nationwide broadband network for first responders.

Mission Critical Communications 7/19: NTIA Requests Comments on Process for Opt-Out States, Aug. 18 Deadline

<http://www.mccmag.com/News/NewsDetails/NewsID/14485>

The NTIA issued a public notice outlining the alternative path states could take to connect to the FirstNet nationwide public-safety broadband network. NTIA said the notice provides preliminary guidance on the “rigorous process” it is developing to review applications for its SAPP from states seeking to deploy their own RAN, the facilities needed to connect first responders to the core of FirstNet’s broadband network.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet social media continues to grow at its normal rate. Facebook has 257 followers, Twitter gained 25 new followers and is now at 3,913 followers, while LinkedIn has 1,609 followers. YouTube now has 300 subscribers.